

In the Claims

Please substitute the following amended claims for those currently pending:

1-31 (Cancelled)

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32. (Original) A method of forming a plastics article through which an image is observable when the article is illuminated with light from behind due to variations in the thickness of the material of the article corresponding to variations in intensity of the image to be observed, the method comprising the steps of:

*31*  
determining the relative intensity at different points of an image;

converting the determined relative intensity into data for controlling a mould forming machine;

automatically forming a mould in which the relief on the mould surface corresponds to the determined relative intensity; and

moulding the article in the mould, the article being moulded from a translucent plastics material including a pigmentation.

33-35 (Cancelled)

36. (New) A method according to Claim 32, in which the article has thicker portions corresponding to the darker regions of the original image, and thinner portions corresponding to the lighter regions of the original image.

37. (New) A method according to Claim 32, in which the relative intensities of the different points of the original image is determined by scanning the image into a computer.

38. (New) A method according to Claim 32, in which the image is analysed by dividing this into separate picture elements, and determining the intensity of each picture element.

39. (New) A method according to Claim 38, in which a value corresponding to the intensity of each picture element is stored in memory.

40. (New) A method according to Claim 32, in which the mould is formed of metal.

41. (New) A method according to Claim 40, in which the step of forming the mould is an engraving step.

42. (New) A method according to Claim 41, in which the engraving step is achieved using a numerically controlled engraving machine.

43. (New) A method according to Claim 41, in which the engraving step is achieved using laser engraving.

44. (New) A method according to Claim 32, in which the material includes luminescent particles.

45. (New) A method according to Claim 32, including the further step of providing a luminescent layer on the article, or providing luminescent particles.

46. (New) A method according to Claim 32, including the further step of providing a coloured layer on or in the article.

47. (New) A method according to Claim 32, in which the article is made from a heat sensitive material whose light transmissive properties vary dependent on the temperature of the material.

48. (New) A method according to Claim 32, in which the article is a non-flat or three-dimensional article.

49. (New) An article formed of a plastics material in accordance with the method of Claim 32.

50. (New) An article formed of a plastics material in accordance with the method of Claim 36.

51. (New) An article formed of a plastics material in accordance with the method of Claim 48.

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